

3. (Amended) The method of producing a cordierite ceramic honeycomb according to claim 1, wherein a thermal expansion coefficient along A-axis of the cordierite ceramic honeycomb is not larger than $0.4 \times 10^{-6}/^{\circ}\text{C}$ and a thermal expansion coefficient along B-axis of the cordierite ceramic honeycomb is not larger than $0.6 \times 10^{-6}/^{\circ}\text{C}$, in a temperature range from 40°C to 800°C .

4. (Amended) The method of producing a cordierite ceramic honeycomb according to claim 1, wherein a thermal expansion coefficient along A-axis of the cordierite ceramic honeycomb is not larger than $0.3 \times 10^{-6}/^{\circ}\text{C}$ and a thermal expansion coefficient along B-axis of the cordierite ceramic honeycomb is not larger than $0.5 \times 10^{-6}/^{\circ}\text{C}$.

5. (Amended) The method of producing a cordierite ceramic honeycomb according to claim 1, wherein a porosity of the cordierite ceramic honeycomb is larger than 30%.

6. (Amended) The method of producing a cordierite ceramic honeycomb according to claim 1, wherein lauric acid potash soap is used as the forming agent.

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a) 7. (Amended) The method of producing a cordierite ceramic honeycomb according to claim 1, wherein a temperature descending rate from the maximum temperature to 1250°C is not larger than 50°C/hour.

8. (Amended) The method of producing a cordierite ceramic honeycomb according to claim 1, wherein a temperature maintaining time at the maximum temperature is not less than 6 hours.

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